BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 91-018-C - ORDER NO. 91-299%

APRIL 16, 1991

IN RE: Request of Ridge Telephone Company) ORDER for Establishment of Depreciation Rate for Digital Central Office Equipment and for approval of Amortization Schedule Retired Electromechanical Central Office Equipment) AND AMORTIZATION SCHEDULES

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) by way of a request by Ridge Telephone Company, Inc. (Ridge or the Company) for approval of new depreciation rates for its Digital Central Office Equipment and for approval of the amortization of the net book balance of retired electromechanical switching equipment for a period of three years.

The application was duly noticed, and no opposition was received by the Commission.

The new depreciation rates proposed by the Company were outlined in the request. The Company proposed to depreciate the cost of the new equipment, which was approximately \$450,000, at a rate of 7.75% over a thirteen year period, which is the estimated useful life of the equipment. Also, the Company submitted additional information concerning the amortization of the retired equipment.

The Commission has considered the request of the Company to

revise depreciation rates and the request to amortize the retired equipment, and after a review of the request, the Commission has determined that the requested rates are reasonable and should be approved and the net book balance of the electromechanical switching equipment should be amortized over a three year period as requested. The new rates will become effective as of January 1, 1991.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Majorielmos-Fragier Chairman

ATTEST:

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(SEAL)